

Mosquitoes can carry viruses that cause encephalitis. Though the risk of encephalitis is low, if contracted by humans, its effects range from flu-like symptoms to paralysis and extreme cases...death.

PROTECT YOURSELF. Wear insect repellant and apply according to the manufacturer's instructions. • Wear light-colored long pants and long sleeve shirts to cover exposed skin. **FIGHT MOSQUITOES.** Repair holes in door and window screens. • Add sand to plant pot drip trays to absorb excess water. • Get rid of old tires, buckets, drums, bottles or any water-holding containers. • Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in the yard. • Keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly. • Cover trash cans to keep out rainwater. • Empty plastic wading pools four to five times a week and store indoors when not in use. • Tree rot holes and hollow stumps can hold water, make sure they are filled with sand or concrete. • Change water in birdbaths and plant pots or drip trays four to five times a week. • Keep your grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there. • For places like stagnant ponds, rain barrels and low-lying wet areas, use environmentally friendly larvicides, which kill mosquito larvae without danger to people, pets or wildlife.

For more information, visit www.FightTheBiteLouisiana.com or call 1-888-246-2675.



A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HOSPITALS / OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH